

PARK & RECREATION MINUTES
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2002
6:30 P.M.

Call to Order: The Parks and Recreation Board met on the above date and time in the Council Chambers, 270 West 15th Street. In the absence of President Jack Harmon, Vice President Tracey Phillips called the meeting to order. Members present were Tim Shuppert, Wilma Jo Kile and Charlie Brown. Denny Corn was absent. Also present was Parks Director Danny Mathews, Secretary Carla Sharpe, Jan Voiles, *Rushville Republican* and Anna Jo Fry, ARC Representative.

Minutes: Minutes of August 13, 2002, and August 19, 2002 was presented for approval. Shuppert moved to approve minutes. Kile seconded. Motion carried.

New Business: Anna Jo Fry - ARC - Discuss Handicapped Accessible Project - Ms. Fry introduced herself as the President of Rush County ARC. She stated that on October 6th they will hold their Annual Ride-A-Bike. In the past they have donated the money raised from this event for handicapped accessible playground equipment at the elementary schools, they have purchased computers for schools and that they are looking for a different project this year as they have done a lot for the schools. They want to do something for the communities and help people with disabilities. They have considered a handicapped playground in one of our parks and would like to donate to our parks department. She stated this wouldn't get done in one year. They raise from two to three thousand dollars a year. Kile stated we are interested in any help we can get and stated that she feels Laughlin Park would be the best place for the new equipment. Fry then asked if there would be any different projects that could be considered such as making park restrooms handicapped accessible or maybe a walking path. Shuppert questioned maybe paving a path from the shelter house to the parking drive. Brown stated he liked the playground equipment idea better and feels that Laughlin Park would also be the best place as the ballgames are played there with so many children. Fry stated she would get with her board and get back with the Parks Board and let us know how big they want this to be. She then invited all to attend the Ride-A-Bike event on October 6th behind the Rushville Elementary School.

Phillips then presented George Coons with a plaque honoring him for his years of service to the Parks and Recreation Board. Coons stated it was a great opportunity to serve and to serve the community. The board thanked Coons for his years of service.

Discuss Winterization of Pool -Mathews stated the pool has been drained. Is not near like it was last year. The Fire Department sprayed and some places have peeled but so far nothing major. Cracks have held up good. Feels we can feather out what needs to be done next year. Shuppert asked if we have the tool to do this next year? Mathews feels it not that bad, thinks we can just feather out and doesn't feel it's not a big concern now.

New Business Continued: Shuppert stated he feels we should contact the company still as this should still be under warranty. We need to get them here and let them see what it's done.

Mathews stated he was pleased to see anymore than what it was when drained and sprayed down.

Discuss Results from Halloween Committee Meeting - Sharpe informed the board that the first committee meeting was held on Wednesday, September 4th. It was decided to start the Halloween parade at 5:30 p.m. this year. There will be four age groups consisting of 0-4, 5-8, 9-13 and 14-Adult. The 14-Adult group was added this year. There will be a judging table for each age group to make this parade go faster. Last year lasted forever with so many kids and only one group of judges.

A treat bagging party will be on Wednesday, October 16th at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall. Last year we bagged 400 bags. This year it has been decided to bag 500 treat bags. Any candy donated and or any help bagging would be greatly appreciated.

On Saturday, October 19th at 10:00 a.m. at the Memorial Park Shelter House we will meet to discuss and design the Haunted House. On Saturday, October 26th at 10:00 a.m. we will construct the Haunted House. This will consist of putting up the walls with black plastic and making the rooms.

On the 28th, 29th and 30th we will decorate the haunted house each night starting at 6:00 p.m. until its finished, putting the finishing touches on it to open on the 31st.

Coons questioned the code updates for the shelter house. He questioned if the panic door had been installed yet? Mathews stated he has the door but doesn't have it put up yet. Sharpe stated that they would be doing things differently this year. No leaves will be used, a fire extinguisher has been put up, and more exits will be put in.

Reports:

Mathews reported that the storage building on 11th street has been painted. He feels the parks are looking really nice. He would just like to see the grass green again. All parks have been painted except the shelter across from the pool and is planning to finish that too.

Reported that the Gospel Sing will be Saturday, September 14th at 4:00 p.m. and invited all to attend.

Reported that the Horseshoe Tournament will be on Saturday, September 28th.

Mathews asked permission to purchase a cell phone for his use at the Parks Department. He gets paged all the time and has to stop what he's doing and go to Park office or Mayor's office to see what is needed. He can get a package for \$25.00 a month for 120 free minutes per month. The phone will run \$69.00 and will run about \$300 a year.

Kile moved to allow Mathews to purchase a cellular phone for \$69.00 and to get the package for \$25 a month with 120 free minutes. Brown seconded. Motion carried.

Mathews reported that he is proud to say that for this year's goals and priorities all but two projects have been completed. When it cools down he will finish them.

Claims: Brown and Phillips reviewed claims prior to meeting. Brown moved to approve claims for the month. Phillips seconded motion. Motion carried.

Unfinished Business: Skateboard Park Update - Brown stated he wants to continue to keep adding to the park. He started this park and wanted to finish it but is glad we hired it done.
Sharpe explained that due to lack of help it has been decided to hire Richard Sallee to finish putting the Skatelite on the ramps, finish the back rails, install the piping and sheet metal and put the last coat of paint on the ramps at a total of \$550. Board all agreed this was a good idea to get it done and get it open.

Sharpe reported that Gilbert Rea of Magic Masonry has given her a quote of \$600 to embed the bronze plaque in a pillar of engraved bricks. The Street Department is going to lay the cement slab and when the engraved bricks arrive Magic Masonry will be called.
Brown moved to approve the quote from Magic Masonry not to exceed \$600. Shuppert seconded. Motion carried.

Sharpe then asked the board if the monument is to be put outside the skateboard park or inside the fenced in area. The board all agreed to put the monument inside the fence next to the pine tree.

Phillips stated he has been patrolling the area at night and everything seems to be quiet.

There being no further business Brown moved to adjourn. Kile seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:30 P.M.

JACK HARMON, PRESIDENT

TRACEY PHILLIPS, VICE PRESIDENT

WILMA JO KILE, MEMBER

TIM SHUPPERT, MEMBER

CHARLES BROWN, MEMBER

DENNY CORN, MEMBER

ATTEST:

CARLA SHARPE, SECRETARY